115 Stevens Street 2021 NOI

Biological Assessment

Prepared using IPaC Generated by Jonathan Hermanson (hermanson@oto-env.com) June 1, 2021

The purpose of this Biological Assessment (BA) is to assess the effects of the proposed project and determine whether the project may affect any Federally threatened, endangered, proposed or candidate species. This BA is prepared in accordance with legal requirements set forth under <u>Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1536 (c))</u>.

Prepared using IPaC version 5.59.1

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1 Description Of The Action

1.1 Project Name

115 Stevens Street 2021 NOI

1.2 Executive Summary

Based on the information you provided, write a short, high-level summary of your project. Ideally, this should be one paragraph.

Effect determination summary

1.3 Project Description

1.3.1 Location



LOCATION Hampden County, Massachusetts

1.3.2 Description of project habitat

Describe the various habitat present on site, including habitat quality and distribution. If appropriate, refer to uploaded surveys or assessments related to this information.

1.3.3 Project proponent information

Provide information regarding who is proposing to conduct the project, and their contact information. Please provide details on whether there is a Federal nexus.

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1.3.4 Project purpose

Clearly describe the purpose and need for the proposed project, including a brief description of all proposed actions in relation to the defined needs. Essentially, explain why the project is being proposed, e.g., to provide new road access, to provide housing, etc.

1.3.5 Project type and deconstruction

In this section, deconstruct (or, subdivide) the proposed action into all of its activities and structures, including all of the project elements (e.g., construction, operation, maintenance). For each activity and structure, describe the "who, what, when, where, and how" at an appropriate level of detail for evaluating the exposure and response of the species and critical habitats to that activity.

The activities and structures you identify will provide the headings under which the Effects Analysis (i.e., effects of the action) for the species and critical habitat will be organized in Section 2 below and in your final document (i.e., biological assessment or other environmental review document). Later you will describe each activity and structure in greater detail.

For this section, consider all activities related to the following portions of your project, where applicable:

- Project timeline and sequencing
- Site preparation
- Construction access and staging
- Post-project site restoration
- Conservation and compensation activities (both on- and off-site)
- Operations and maintenance

1.3.6 Anticipated environmental stressors

Describe the anticipated effects of your proposed project on the aspects of the land, air and water that will occur due to the activities above. These should be based on the activity deconstructions done in the previous section and will be used to inform the action area.

1.4 Action Area

The action area is the specific spatial polygon encompassing all of the areas where land, water, or air will be detectably changed due to the proposed project and any other activities that would not occur but for the proposed action. This typically does not include the broader area where affected wildlife might travel or move to after being exposed to those modifications within the action area. The action area should not be confused with other geographic descriptions, such as: analysis area, project area, recovery unit, management unit, etc. These may be helpful in analyzing population effects, but are not an equivalent substitute for the regulatory description of an action area.

Depending on the nature of the project, the action area may extend beyond the limits of the actual project location. IPaC will prompt you through the process to help you determine an appropriate action area. Once determined, effects to species should be considered throughout the action area.

1.5 Conservation Measures

Describe any proposed measures being implemented as part of the project that are designed to reduce the impacts to the environment and their resulting effects to listed species. To avoid extra verbiage, don't list measures that have no relevance to the species being analyzed.

No conservation measures have been selected for this project.

1.6 Prior Consultation History

Provide information on any previous consultation(s) on this project with USFWS, including dates and outcomes. Information from prior consultations may be helpful to the biologist reviewing the project. If you wish to upload/attach consultation documents, please do so under Section '1.8 Other Reports and helpful Information'.

1.7 Other Agency Partners And Interested Parties

Identify any other agencies (Federal, State, Local, Tribal) involved in the project, and include each agency's role, the appropriate contact, and their contact information. Also, as applicable and available, provide information regarding any known interested parties.

1.8 Other Reports And Helpful Information

Communicate any other helpful information that you have not previously provided. You can also upload additional files that may be helpful (e.g., reports) and they will become an Appendix to this document.

2 Species Effects Analysis

This section describes, species by species, the effects of the proposed action on listed, proposed, and candidate species, and the habitat on which they depend. In this document, effects are broken down as direct interactions (something happening directly to the species) or indirect interactions (something happening to the environment on which a species depends that could then result in effects to the species).

These interactions encompass effects that occur both during project construction and those which could be ongoing after the project is finished. All effects, however, should be considered, including effects from direct and indirect interactions and cumulative effects.

3 Critical Habitat Effects Analysis No critical habitats intersect with the project action area.

4 Summary Discussion, Conclusion, And Effect Determinations

4.1 Effect Determination Summary

SPECIES (COMMON NAME)	SCIENTIFIC NAME	LISTING STATUS	PRESENT IN ACTION AREA	EFFECT DETERMINATION	
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4.2 Summary Discussion

Describe in summary form the overall effects your proposed project will have to species and critical habitat within your action area.

4.3 Conclusion

Provide clear statements of conclusion that help USFWS understand your findings.